

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Natural Resources to adopt certain regulations to prohibit the importation, possession, or introduction of certain nonnative aquatic organisms; specifying that the provisions of this Act are not applicable to certain aquaculture operations or activities; authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to enter and inspect certain property for a certain purpose and subject to a certain requirement; requiring the Secretary to consult certain persons and certain resources when making a certain determination; authorizing the Department to seize and dispose of certain organisms; requiring the Secretary to serve a certain notice and a certain abatement order to a certain person in the event of a certain state of nuisance; authorizing the Secretary to file ~~a certain complaint~~ complaints under certain circumstances; requiring the Department to reimburse certain costs of abatement to certain persons and make certain repair efforts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Department to enter certain property and take certain actions to abate a state of nuisance; authorizing the Secretary to abate summarily a certain state of nuisance under a certain circumstance; requiring the Secretary to serve or attach certain orders under certain circumstances; authorizing the Secretary to enter certain property and perform certain work under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary to provide notice of certain charges to a certain person, and authorizing the Secretary to file suit under a certain circumstance; requiring the Department to minimize certain damage and, under a certain circumstance, to repair or reimburse for certain damage; specifying that certain persons may not be held civilly liable for certain damages, except under a certain circumstance; prohibiting a person from interfering with or refusing entry to certain persons; providing for certain penalties; defining certain terms; and generally relating to certain procedures for the abatement and summary abatement of certain states of nuisance caused by certain nonnative aquatic organisms.

BY adding to

Article – Natural Resources

Section 4–205.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Natural Resources**

4–205.1.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “AQUATIC ORGANISM” MEANS ~~A FISH OR ANY OTHER ANIMAL~~ AN ORGANISM THAT LIVES PART OF ITS LIFE IN WATER.